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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

## INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Denmark/Germany

DATE: 25X1X6

SUBJECT Danish Surgical Trade Association

INFO: [REDACTED]

ORIGIN 25X1A6a

DATE: 17 February 1947

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1. During the summer of 1946 the Danish Surgical Trade Association made an attempt to obtain the most needed medical supplies, glassware, and optical equipment from the Russian Zone in Germany. Mr. Louis Bahnsen represented the association in the negotiations which were carried on privately with Russian authorities in Germany.
2. The Russians were willing to supply some types of the goods wanted provided they in return could obtain needed supplies from Denmark, particularly insulin, fats of all kinds, and various food stuffs.
3. On his return to Denmark Mr. Bahnsen took the matter up with the Danish Foreign Office which expressed interest but also uncertainty as to whether Moscow should be notified regarding these private negotiations. It was decided to continue "informal" discussions in order to determine what kind of goods Denmark could deliver and what could be expected from the Russians.
4. Mr. Bahnsen returned to Germany with requirements of the trade and an offer for the Russians. He negotiated in Karlshorst with Major Pscholkin from S. M. A. Pscholkin was still interested in making a deal and expressed a desire for obtaining free dollars. However, Bahnsen had no authority to offer free dollars.
5. On his third trip to Germany in November, Bahnsen brought with him a complete list of products that Denmark could offer the Russians and a complete detailed list of supplies that were wanted in return. He was told upon arrival that the goods the Danes could offer were no longer of interest to the Russians — not even the fats — and that only free dollars were desired. The Danish authorities agreed to the payment being made to the Russians entirely in dollars. The payment was to be made in cash before the order was executed. The goods wanted are listed below. The prices are said to be about 20% above 1944 prices. One dollar equals 2.51 RM. The goods are considered rather high. Many correspond to American and British goods in price.
6. On the list are microscopes from Zeiss. They are to be paid for in dollars despite the fact that British microscopes have been refused by the "Mercantile Directorate" (Varedirektoratet) and that a great consignment of British microscopes are being held in the Copenhagen Free Harbor until the 1947 licenses have been issued. The thermometers and the glassware, as well as glass for spectacles are greatly needed in Denmark, but there is no great enthusiasm regarding the entire deal. Some people are unable to understand why the payment had to be made in dollars.

CLASSIFICATION: [REDACTED]

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7. The Russians refused payment via Moscow since "The Zone is owing Moscow dollars". Moscow is owing Denmark dollars too, as the deliveries from the USSR have been very few and far between, and Denmark has delivered far more goods than she has received under the recent trade agreement.

8. The goods wanted by the Danes and amounts involved in the deal between the Danish Trade Association and the Russians are as follows:

Glasses .....	45,000.00 RM
Microscopes .....	50,000.00 RM
X-ray Tubes .....	25,000.00 RM
Orthopedic Appliances .....	5,000.00 RM
Clinical Thermometers .....	65,000.00 RM
Glassware .....	150,000.00 RM
Butyrometers .....	37,500.00 RM
Insulin Bottles .....	24,500.00 RM
Ampoules .....	16,000.00 RM
Dairy Thermometers .....	22,000.00 RM
Ebonite Goods .....	10,000.00 RM
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	450,000.00 RM

Individual prices:

Thermometers .....	1.25 RM
Butyrometers .....	1.13 RM
Monocular Microscopes, Zeiss EOB .....	427.00 RM
Monocular Microscopes, Zeiss LGOB .....	596.00 RM

\* [REDACTED] Comment: These prices appear to be pre-war German catalogue prices.

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